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Technical Advisory Group (TAG)
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Designation of National Subfocal Points for Small Hydropower*

(Agenda item 7)

prepared by

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Designation of national sub-focal points for small hydropower

Nomination of Sub-Focal Points

The concept of technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) depends critically on the establishment of strong links between national groups engaged in the same activity. This allows the exchange of national experiences on a regional or international basis and the development of joint co-operative programmes. The Regional Network for Small Hydropower can only function effectively when it has full coverage and support of the country of the region through designated sub-focal points. Only then will it allow the exchange of experience and development of programmes based on the needs of the region in the field of small hydropower development between and among the officers directly engaged in small hydropower.

It is therefore essential for a smooth and effective functioning of the Regional Network that all member countries of REDP be urged to nominate a sub-focal point for Small Hydropower. This matter is, of course, within the prerogative of the regional REDP through its Senior Co-ordinator. Therefore TAG participants as a whole may wish to draft a resolution calling upon the REDP Senior Co-ordinator to urge REDP focal points who have not yet nominated sub-focal points for small hydropower to do so as soon as possible.

Associate Members of Regional Network for Small Hydropower

It is recognized that although progress is being made by the Regional Network for Small Hydropower, considerable assistance and co-operation could be obtained from sources located specifically in the industrialized countries. Also there are developing countries outside the region which have considerable experience and knowledge in small hydropower which could be of benefit to the programme. Therefore consideration might be given to the possibility of inviting selected countries outside the region to become associate members of the Regional Network for Small Hydropower. In this capacity, they would be able to participate in the general discussions but without voting rights. Their participation would be at their own costs.

In agenda item 6, reference was made to the need to present to funding agencies well-prepared project proposals in the field of small hydropower for securing appropriate financial support. By involving the funding agencies from an early stage of discussions as associate members of the Regional Network for Small Hydropower, it might facilitate the above procedure with a better chance of securing needed funds. These funding agencies might include international, regional and national bodies, such as the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank as well as national development aide organizations, such as:

USAID	United States of America
IDRC	Canada
ODA	United Kingdom
SIDA	Sweden
NORAD	Norway
DANIDA	Denmark
DSE	Federal Republic of Germany
SITA	Switzerland
JICA	Japan
	etc.

It might be possible to combine the associate membership of the industrialized countries with their respective funding agencies but this would require that the participant be knowledgeable both on the technical aspects of small hydropower as well as having direct links with the relevant donor organizations.

The TAG participants may wish to take a decision on this matter and make recommendations for action as appropriate.